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Atty. Dkt. No. 027053-0109

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Angela M. BELCHER et al.

Title: FABRICATED BIOFILM STORAGE DEVICE

Appl. No.: 10/668,600

Filing Date: 09/24/2003

Examiner: My Chau Tran

Art Unit: 1639

RESPONSE TO OFFICE COMMUNICATION

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This communication is responsive to the Office Communication dated July 17, 2006, concerning the above-referenced patent application.

The July 17th Communication indicates that Applicants' amendment and response of April 20, 2006, is acknowledged and entered. However, the Communication indicates that the April 20th response "was not fully responsive to the prior Office Action," because "applicants' election of species (b) is confusing with regard to the number of 'biologic material' since applicant elected 'ONE' as the number of biologic material and also elected 'PROTEIN' as the additional biological material." The Communication requests clarification of the election.

Applicants clarify their prior response by noting that virus is the biological material and no additional biological materials, other than the virus, are present. In other words, there is no "additional biological material" present according to subsection (b) on page 8 of the Office

Action mailed March 20, 2006. Thus, Applicants elect (a) "virus" as a biological material, (b) "zero" as the number of additional biological materials, (c) "plastic" as the substrate, (d) "inorganic" as the species of molecule, and (e) "sugar" as the type of stabilizer.

CONCLUSION

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check or credit card payment form being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, Applicants hereby petition for such extension under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

Date Aug. 17, 2006

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